

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Ian D. McRury et al.

Confirmation No.: 3998

Application No.: 10/024,625

Art Unit: 3731

Filed: December 18, 2001

Examiner: Darwin P. Erez

For: SUTURE WELDING SYSTEM AND METHOD

May 16, 2006

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated March 16, 2006, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.